



REBUILDING

A Guide for Disaster Survivors

March 15, 2012

www.DHS.in.gov

Issue 10

DISASTER FOOD STAMP ASSISTANCE

Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) received approval from USDA Food and Nutrition Service to issue disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to qualified victims living in specific zip codes in Clark, Jefferson, Ripley, Scott, Warrick and Washington Counties.

Disaster victims living in designated zip codes who are not usually eligible for SNAP may temporarily qualify if their home or belongings were damaged or destroyed, and they have un-reimbursed disaster-related expenses, OR if they have lost income, food or money as a result of the severe storms and tornadoes.

To view a complete list of approved zip codes, go online to:
www.in.gov/gov/disasterrecovery.htm

Disaster food stamps applications will be accepted at the Sellersburg and New Pekin One Stop Shops for Tornado Disaster Relief (OSS). Applications will also be accepted at FSSA Division of Family Resources (DFR) offices located in the federal disaster counties (during normal business hours). Applications must be made by Thursday, 3/22.

FRIDAY: LAST DAY FOR SOME SERVICES AT SELLERSBURG ONE-STOP SHOP

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) WILL continue to remain on-site daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. until further notice to operate its DRC with the **Small Business Administration (SBA)** and the **Internal Revenue Service (IRS)**. **IN Family and Social Services Administration** will remain at the site Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. to operate the disaster food stamp program. All other state agencies will complete their operations Friday at 8 p.m.

ATTENTION ALL PROPERTY OWNERS / MANAGERS

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority is asking owners of unoccupied housing located in storm-affected and adjacent counties to register properties available for rent on www.IndianaHousingNow.org.

This website provides a centralized listing of available rentals—apartments or houses—for those who may have lost their homes to the March 2nd tornadoes. The database will help displaced Hoosiers find alternate living arrangements as the region recovers and IHCD will be pulling vacancy reports in our efforts to rapidly re-house residents throughout the affected areas in Indiana.

LAST EDITION TOMORROW

Friday, 3/16 will be the last day this newsletter is published.

For future updates please check out the Indiana Disaster Recovery Website:
emergency.in.gov

Call 2-1-1 to request assistance or to ask recovery questions

IDHS: Leadership for a safe and secure Indiana

National Weather Service forecasts scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 79.

Southwest wind between 5 and 11 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.



State agencies at One Stop Shops

American Red Cross— Basic necessities
Bureau of Motor Vehicles – Replacement driver's licenses, identification cards and permits will be provided at no charge to citizens impacted by the disaster. Other services include title replacement, registrations and license plates.

Department of Insurance – Information on lost or damaged policies, obtaining copies of insurance policies, and car insurance assistance.

Department of Workforce Development – Application for state unemployment benefits

Faith Based & Community Initiatives
(Sellersburg only)

Indiana Dept. of Child Services *(Sellersburg only)*

Indiana Department of Homeland Security – general disaster recovery information; damage reports

Indiana Family and Social Services

Administration – Replacement food stamps for families impacted by the disaster who are currently receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-food stamps) benefits; counseling services

Indiana Housing and Community

Development Authority – List of emergency shelters, temporary housing and rental assistance

Indiana State Department of Health –

(Sellersburg only) vaccination information; clean up advice; access and information to vital records – birth and death certificates.

Internal Revenue Service *(Sellersburg only)*

Joint State & Federal Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC)

Sellersburg Disaster Recovery Center

The Sellersburg DRC located at the Ivy Tech campus at I-65 and Hwy 311(I-65 exit 9) in Sellersburg, IN, will remain open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week until further notice. *(The Sellersburg DRC is co-located with the Sellersburg OSS)*

DRC staff can answer questions about registration for federal disaster assistance and hazard mitigation; and provide information and contacts for other programs.

Representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will be on hand to answer questions about SBA low interest loans.

Indiana residents living nearer to Kentucky may go to FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers located in Kentucky. A person living in an affected area may go to any FEMA DRC site.

You do NOT need to apply in person at any disaster recovery center for FEMA aid.

Homeowners, renters and business owners affected by the storms are encouraged to register for assistance anytime online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling the telephone registration line, 1-800-621-FEMA (3362), which is available 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., 7 days a week. Survivors are encouraged to call ahead.

ONE DAY ONLY:

There will be a one-day only One-Stop Shop set up in Pekin on Friday, March 16, 2012. The OSS will be located at 210 E. Timber Blvd., Pekin, IN 47165. The hours will be 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Fraud Alert: Scammers Impersonate American Red Cross Workers in Tornado Affected Areas

Citizens of the impacted tornado areas have reported receiving calls from individuals identifying themselves as American Red Cross workers.

During the call, residents are asked to leave their home and to pay a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee for debris removal.

The American Red Cross will never call and ask for money for disaster relief services. If anyone calls or shows up at your home representing themselves as part of the American Red Cross and asks for money, report the contact to local law enforcement immediately.

Property Reassessments:

Scott County: call the county assessor's office at 812-752-8436, or stop at the office at 1 E. McClain Ave., #150, Scottsburg, IN 47170.

Ripley County: come into the office (812) 689-5656 located at 115 N. Main Street, Versailles, IN 47042 or fill out the online form at <http://www.ripleycounty.com/assessor/>

Warrick County: call (812) 897-6125 before going to the assessor's office located at 1 County Sq. #280, Boonville, IN 47601. <http://www.warrickcounty.gov/warrickassessor>

Jefferson County: come into the office, 300 East Main Street, Room 102, Madison, IN 47250 or go online to complete a form at <http://jeffersoncounty.in.gov/assessor/index.php>

Washington County residents may be eligible to file for disaster petitions. This can be filed only real or personal property. The form can be obtained at the assessor's office or online at www.washingtoncounty.in.gov, or by calling 812-883-4000.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES OFFERS VOUCHERS FOR CHILDREN

Sellersburg families with children may access assistance vouchers for new bedding, beds and clothing for their children. Families DO NOT have to have been previously involved with Department of Child Services to receive the vouchers. Families only need picture ID to access the vouchers and then acquire essential children's items at designated stores. Department of Child Services will be at the Sellersburg OSS through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

MORE OPTIONS FOR DEBRIS DISPOSAL:

Ripley County: The basketball courts at the Holton Park have a dumpster for electronic waste, two dumpsters for construction debris, and a dumpster for scrap metal.

Jefferson County: Saluda Jubilee Park has 4 dumpsters for construction debris, 1 for scrap metal, 1 for electronic waste.

The running total of registered volunteers is 4,967 with estimated 37,252 hours at a value of \$707,795.

Note: This only includes those registered at the Volunteer resource Center and does not include all local and "other" volunteers. It also does not include American Red Cross and Salvation Army.

Prevent Mosquitoes

With warmer-than-normal spring temperatures, insects are starting to become active. Take steps now to remove and prevent standing water that could become mosquito breeding sites.

Emotional Care Services Available

Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction staff are available at the One-Stop-Shop in Sellersburg 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Residents may call the 24 hour no-cost hotline to talk and get help managing recovery: 1-866-679-4631

LifeSpring: Tornado Recovery Counseling

LifeSpring community mental health center is offering 6 free counseling sessions to children, families and individuals who continue to face the challenge of tornado recovery.

A little assistance from a LifeSpring counselor offers hope, help and stress management techniques. Call 1-812-280-2080 for an appointment or get information from Disaster Mental Health staff.

Health and Wellness Resources

- **Clark County:** Clark Memorial Medical Center in Henryville at 314 S. Ferguson St. has re-opened. It is located across the street from the Henryville Fire Station. First aid and tetanus shots are available from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Ripley County:** The Red Cross has opened a service center at the Holton Fire Department, located at 40 S. Marion Street, Holton. Health services, caseworkers, and mental health services are available at the service center. The local health department will have a representative at the OSS on Wednesday, 3/14, to provide tetanus vaccinations.
- **Washington County:** The health department is going door to door again Wednesday (3/14) and Saturday (3/17) in an effort to provide residents with tetanus immunizations. After Saturday, residents may continue to receive immunizations at the Washington County Health Department, 8:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The department is located at 806 Martinsburg Rd., Salem, Ind. and can be reached at 812-883-5603 or 812-883-2349.
- **Scott County:** Residents who need tetanus vaccinations should contact the health department at 812-752-8455. Staff are on call to assist in other counties, if requested.
- Tetanus shots also available at the One Stop Shop in Sellersburg through Friday, 8 p.m.

Washington County tornado survivors needing assistance from volunteers and persons wanting to volunteer can call 812-967-4682.

The Red Cross is available to help those affected. Call 800-696-3873 for assistance.

Having trouble finding where to replace a vehicle windshield or where to obtain other disaster recovery services? Call 211 for help finding local resources.

Free Legal Assistance to Tornado Survivors

The Indiana State Bar Association (ISBA) has established a toll-free legal aid line for survivors. Callers will be matched with local lawyers who have volunteered to provide free legal consultations on matters such as insurance claims, home repair contracts, landlord issues and replacing legal documents.

The number is 1-800-266-2581. Please note that the toll-free number will operate Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EDT). Messages can be left at any time.

This **Saturday, March 17**, from 8 a.m. - 1p.m. There will be eight lawyers providing free legal assistance to anyone seeking legal counsel. They will be located at the Adams Funeral Home in Henryville (209 S. Ferguson Street, Henryville, IN 47126).

Additional Legal Resources: Tornado survivors can also visit the Clark Legal Self Help Center on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Clark Circuit Court located at 501 E. Court Ave., Jeffersonville, IN 47130. For more info., visit www.clarklegalselfhelp.com.

Stay Connected to Get Up-to-Date Information

Disaster Recovery Website: emergency.in.gov
Apply for FEMA www.fema.gov or (800) 621-FEMA (3362)

Help and Info: Call 2-1-1 (or 317-926-4357)

Red Cross: 800.696.3873

Crisis counseling: 1-866-679-4631

Find buried wires and pipes: Call 8-1-1 (landline only) or 800-382-5544

Twitter: @IDHS

Facebook: Search for "Indiana Department of Homeland Security"

Updates: Text "follow IDHS" to 40404

General Emergency Preparedness Info: GetPrepared.in.gov

Travel Information: <http://indot.carsprogram.org> or 800-261-ROAD (7623)